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system of universal military service, made clear the greatest lesson learned from the century of war here detailed, laid the basis for every military system of the countries of continental Europe in the nineteenth century and consequently affected their political and financial policies and even their international relations.

The author has read much more widely than his bibliography indicates and has put together with painstaking care and accuracy a great mass of facts, and these qualities will make his volume an acceptable reference work for those interested in military history. Sketch plans of some twenty-five battlefields and several helpful maps, *e. g.*, of the valley of the Danube, add much to its value from this point of view.

GUY STANTON FORD.

*A Vindication of Warren Hastings.* By G. W. HASTINGS. (London and New York: Henry Frowde. 1909. Pp. viii, 203.)

THIS book is not a life of Warren Hastings, nor is it based upon materials unknown to students or unused by other writers. Aside from the introduction which includes an account of Hastings's Tibetan policy, and a concluding chapter on Daylesford, the English home of Hastings, the book is an examination of the chief topics which have been made the basis of attack on Hastings. The sources of the book are to be found in Forrest's *State Papers*, though use has also been made of the lives by Gleig and Lyall, Strachey's *Rohilla War*, and Stephen's *Story of Nuncomar*. Certain personal observations and family reminiscences are found in the chapter on Daylesford. Naturally Macaulay's *Essay* is the chief object of attack; but it is strange that nothing is said of the detailed reply to Stephen in Beveridge's *Trial of Nanda Kumar: a Narrative of a Judicial Murder*, nor is any special attempt made to deal with errors which Beveridge long ago asserted to exist in Stephen's treatment of the case. The literature of the trial of Hastings is only casually alluded to, for this book is not a history of the trial, nor are the circumstances under which the charges were finally determined treated in adequate fashion. The proper limitations set for this notice restrain the reviewer at present from attempting what would seem to be an attractive inquiry—namely, to study once more the trial of Hastings and to examine with the aid of recently published sources the charges brought against him, to analyze more closely Macaulay's historical methods, and in this fashion to review the history of the literature on Hastings. As a whole, this is not attempted in this book. The matters to be treated, therefore, must reduce themselves to a brief analysis and a test as to whether the author has made proper use of the *State Papers*. And here naturally the gratitude and appreciation of students must once more be expressed to Mr. Forrest for his great editorial achievements.

The charges against Hastings are here grouped under the following

six headings: the Rohilla War, "Nuncoomar", the wars with the Marathas and with the French together with the internal dissensions between Hastings and his English colleagues, the struggle with Mysore, Cheit Sing, and the Begums. Then follows a summary in which the chief points involved in each matter are recapitulated; and the author, after a vigorous yet courteous attack on Macaulay's *Essay*, concludes that the documents "demonstrate the moral integrity of Warren Hastings as clearly as they do his intellectual greatness" (p. 187). The book as a whole is a clear and powerful argument to that end and aims to popularize truths too long enclosed in archives. However, without rejecting the author's criticisms of Macaulay, or minimizing in the slightest degree the importance of the documents utilized, some of the larger issues suggested by this study of British administration in India at that period will probably not be as satisfactorily dismissed by many students.

The test of the use made of the documents shows in a number of quotations inaccuracies of spelling and in some instances verbal variations. On the whole, however, the use of the documents has been legitimate. The question whether Mrs. Hastings ever received money from natives, thus perhaps stimulating charges of corruption against the governor, may never be answered. Certainly we do not find any answer here.

ALFRED L. P. DENNIS.

*La Vente des Biens Nationaux pendant la Révolution. Avec Étude Spéciale des Ventes dans les Départements de la Gironde et du Cher. Ouvrage couronné par l'Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques. Par MARCEL MARION, Professeur à la Faculté des Lettres de l'Université de Bordeaux. (Paris: Honoré Champion. 1908. Pp. xviii, 448.)*

THE sale of the public lands during the French Revolution offers an instance of an old theme entirely renewed by abandoning a method of treatment which consisted in summing up in sweeping generalizations the fragmentary and inexact impressions of writers of memoirs, and, instead, undertaking to investigate in typical districts or departments the records of the actual sales. The history of the legislation affecting the sales is of itself baffling in complexity. M. Marion remarks that between 1790 and 1802 the successive laws provided for no fewer than thirty different modes of acquisition, and that payment could be made at one time or another not only in assignats and mandates but also in every imaginable form of government paper. The study of the sales is obviously of still greater complexity and must proceed slowly. Up to the present time noteworthy results have been published for about a dozen districts or departments. To these M. Marion has now added studies of the sales in the Gironde and in the Cher, two regions of contrasting characteristics, one a maritime department with Bordeaux